

Comments of Georgianna Grant, Trustee and Deputy Mayor of the Village of Croton on Hudson.

Good morning. My name is Georgianna Grant and I am a Trustee and Deputy Mayor of the Village of Croton on Hudson. I have served on the Board for 12 years and it was my pleasure to be one of the elected officials in the village to have voted for approval of our unique and comprehensive Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) in 1992. As you are aware, it implements the New York State Waterfront Revitalization of Coastal and Inland Waterways Act passed by the New York State Legislature in conformity with the federal Coastal Zone Management Act. At that time, the "Coastal Zone" was defined by the State to include the area within Croton-on-Hudson, in its entirety.

Work on Croton's LWRP began in 1987 with the aid of a State grant providing funding for a consultant and for research necessary to implement and develop the policies covered in the plan. Our small village spent close to \$100,000 of our very limited funds to develop this plan because we believed so strongly in its principles. The consultant with whom we worked was Matthew D. Rubikoff

Associates, Inc. A committee of concerned citizens was appointed by the Mayor to work with the consultant. Together, they worked for over 4 years to achieve the final adoption of this very important plan. It was with a great deal of enthusiasm and excitement that the plan was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Village Board on March 16, 1992. The Village's Program was approved by the New York Secretary of State, Gail Shaffer on June 15, 1992 and by your own Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management on August 17, 1992.

The Village's LWRP encompasses the 44 coastal policies defined by New York State as essential to protection of our Coastal Zone and Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat areas. In addition, and as a result of the adoption of this Program, the Village of Croton has passed numerous laws designed to implement the LWRP and protect the natural environment and coastal resources of the Village. Just a few of the specific local laws are:

Erosion and Sediment Control Law

Steep Slope Law

**Water Supply Protection Rules and Regulations, and
- Protection of Wetlands, Waterbodies and Watercourses
Law.**

The water supply and wetlands protection laws are particularly relevant to this proceeding, as it was the Village's finding, as well as that of the New York Department of State, that the proposed pipeline would directly violate the express requirements of these two laws.

I hope that this short history lesson demonstrates to you that the Village has been committed to the principles of good coastal zone management and the requirements of your Department's own regulatory program for many, many years. Due to the Village's unique coastal location -- surrounded on two sides by Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat zones -- coastal management principles have come to serve, in effect, as the fundamental underpinnings of the Village's entire approach to land use planning and environmental protection. The LWRP guides both the local and State governments in evaluating what new developments should and should not be allowed in the Village's Coastal Zone.

A thorough and comprehensive review of all the evidence has demonstrated that the construction of the Millennium pipeline across Haverstraw Bay and through the Village of Croton is “consistently inconsistent” with the fully approved Coastal Zone Management Programs of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson and New York State. Allowing construction of the pipeline in spite of all these carefully designed protections would render the entire CZMA planning process a mere exercise in futility, and would be an insult to your agency, to the State of New York and to the Village of Croton-on-Hudson.

We ask you to honor the reasoned decision made by New York State with respect to the protection of its own coastal lands, and concur with our position that the construction of the Millennium pipeline, as currently proposed, should be denied.



SANDRA R. GALEF
Assemblywoman 90th District

THE ASSEMBLY
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ALBANY

COMMITTEES
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Consumer Affairs and Protection
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Election Law
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Health

November 13, 2002

Statement to: The Honorable Donald Evans, Chairman
United States Department of Commerce

From: Assemblywoman Sandy Galef

Thank you for your willingness to hold a public hearing in Westchester on the proposed Millennium Gas Pipeline and to assess the impact on the communities where the pipeline is proposed to travel.

After attending many meetings, including one sponsored by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission last January, I have a much better understanding of the energy needs of the northeast and most specifically New York State and the Hudson Valley region. In fact in the summer of 2002 we used 30,664 megawatts of power from our total supply of 31,000 megawatts. I also have concluded that eliminating nuclear power in our region can only be accomplished by our ability to accept other forms of energy to give us the power we need. Therefore, I do believe that the Millennium Gas Pipeline could give us the options we need to start to phase out nuclear power at the Indian Point facilities.

But it is not just about accepting other power sources. Most importantly, it is about making sure that we adopt the best approaches to bring that new power into our region.

The decision that you, the US Department of Commerce, must make is crucial to all of us. You have the authority to determine the best route for the pipeline to cross the Hudson River and the route that will have the least impact on the quality of the river and the least impact on our environment including water supply and nature preserves, as well as on our local schools.

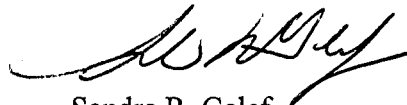
I am proposing that you further explore with the company sponsoring the Millennium Gas Pipeline that a crossing of the Hudson River be located at the most western end of Route 117 in the town of Mount Pleasant. There is little activity in this area and there is limited automobile traffic on Route 117. The pipeline could enter Westchester County at this waterfront area and then continue to track the proposal pipeline route into southern Westchester. This crossing would eliminate all the issues that have been and are being presented to you from the officials and residents of Cortlandt Manor to Briarcliff Manor.



Throughout the day and evening you will continue to hear again and again the concerns raised about the pipeline in close proximity to the Briarcliff Schools, the concerns about the impacts on the watershed and the disturbance of several land preserves. A Route 117 crossing option will eliminate these objections and still allow the pipeline to reach its destination.

I ask that you work diligently with the sponsors of the Millennium Gas Pipeline to require a real in-depth analysis of a Route 117 crossing. We must determine a more suitable route for the this pipeline to cross the Hudson River and one that will have less impact on the people of Northern Westchester.

Thank you for this opportunity to listen to our views.



Sandra R. Galef



TEATOWN LAKE RESERVATION, INC.

Nature Preserve and Education Center

1600 Spring Valley Road

Ossining, New York 10562

(914) 762-2912 FAX (914) 762-2890

email: teatown@teatown.org

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Gail Abrams

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Dianne Barron

November 13, 2002

Dear Mr. Secretary and Department of Commerce officials,

Teatown Lake Reservation is a private non-profit nature preserve and education center that has been in existence for the past 40 years. The organization has been providing environmental education programming to schools, youth organizations, families and the general public and has preserved over 750 acres of open space in northern Westchester County. We are currently raising funds to protect an additional 300 acres in the New Croton Watershed contiguous to our nature preserve.

Our 759-acre preserve is located in the New Croton Watershed and will be severely impacted by construction and operation of the Millennium Pipeline along the route known as the Con Edison/Taconic offset. The pipeline would be constructed through 14 acres of the preserve containing Teatown Lake, a DEC Class II wetland, steep slopes, rock ledges and important wildlife habitat.

Teatown has opposed this pipeline route because of its impact on the environment; in particular on the preserve itself as well as the New Croton Watershed of which it plays a major role. Much time, energy and staff resources have been committed to educating the public about the importance of protecting the quality of our drinking water, most recently involving student monitoring of streams draining directly into the New Croton Reservoir. Time and resources have also been committed to protect environmentally sensitive open space including the property that will be impacted by this pipeline route. Teatown understands the need for natural gas, this route is simply in the wrong location and other alternatives do exist.

We urge you to uphold the New York Department of State's ruling and to uphold New York's right to protect its coastline, environment, and citizens. In support of our continued opposition to the proposed pipeline route, the Teatown Board of Trustees passed the attached resolution at its November 3rd Board meeting.

Sincerely,

Gail Abrams
Executive Director

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

Teatown Lake Reservation Millennium Pipeline Resolution

Whereas:

* Teatown Lake Reservation (Teatown) is a 759-acre private nature preserve and education center with 14 miles of nature trails open, without restriction, to the public and over 40,000 visitors annually. Teatown's mission statement to conserve open space and to educate and involve the regional community in order to sustain the diversity of wildlife, plants and habitats for future generations puts regional environmental leadership among its top priorities, particularly with respect to projects such as the proposed route for the Millennium Pipeline which would have widespread environmental impacts on Teatown and on the region as a whole;

* Teatown has made a detailed analysis of the proposed Pipeline route and of the likely impacts from construction and operation upon Teatown itself including a tree study by a certified arborist and two separate wetland studies by two different consultants;

* Teatown has already gone on record as opposing the proposed Pipeline route known as the Con Edison/ Taconic offset and has filed letters with FERC, the Secretary of Commerce, the Governor of New York, the New York Attorney General and numerous public officials to that effect;

Resolved:

Teatown Lake Reservation continues to oppose the route for the Millennium Pipeline known as the Con Edison/Taconic offset, based on Teatown's detailed analysis described above finding that the construction and operation of the pipeline will:

- ☐ destroy habitat within Teatown Lake Reservation;
- ☐ destroy water bodies within the Reservation;
- ☐ degrade wetlands within the Reservation;
- ☐ adversely impact Teatown's education programming and associated revenue stream;
- ☐ cause Teatown to incur increased costs to monitor construction of the pipeline and to mitigate damage to wetlands and other habitats afterwards;
- ☐ result in a destruction of protected open space in direct contravention of Teatown's mission.

Teatown opposes the Pipeline also because of its adverse impacts on the region, including:

- ☐ destruction of habitat within Haverstraw Bay;
- ☐ blasting in the Hudson River;
- ☐ clearing a 75 to 150 foot corridor to accommodate construction and operation;
- ☐ violation of the Clean Water Act;
- ☐ endangering the water supply for millions.



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Dianne Barron

November 13, 2002

Secretary Donald L. Evans
Office of the Secretary
Room 5854
U.S. Department of Commerce
14th & Constitution Ave. NW
Washington, D.C., 20230

Dear Secretary Evans,

I am writing in my capacity as Chairman of the Teatown Lake Reservation, Inc., a not-for-profit 695-acre nature preserve located in northern Westchester County, New York. Our mission is two-fold: the preservation of open space in what is an increasingly congested part of our country, and the education of our youth in understanding and appreciating the world beyond human contrivance. In this regard, we had over 17,000 participants in the various nature programs we provided this past year.

The proposed project would allow a private company to cut a 50-foot wide swath right through the middle of the preserve. In addition to the destruction of the open space we are trying to preserve, you can imagine the impact this will have on those to whom we are trying to teach respect for our natural heritage. In that this pipeline is in direct negation of both critical elements of our mission, our Board of Trustees has unanimously agreed to the attached resolution.

I ask that you will not allow this proposed desecration to take place.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Swope
Chairman

Cc: Gail Abrams
Executive Director
Teatown Lake Reservation

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

**Teatown Lake Reservation
Millennium Pipeline Resolution**

Whereas:

* Teatown Lake Reservation (Teatown) is a 759-acre private nature preserve and education center with 14 miles of nature trails open, without restriction, to the public and over 40,000 visitors annually. Teatown's mission statement to conserve open space and to educate and involve the regional community in order to sustain the diversity of wildlife, plants and habitats for future generations puts regional environmental leadership among its top priorities, particularly with respect to projects such as the proposed route for the Millennium Pipeline which would have widespread environmental impacts on Teatown and on the region as a whole;

* Teatown has made a detailed analysis of the proposed Pipeline route and of the likely impacts from construction and operation upon Teatown itself including a tree study by a certified arborist and two separate wetland studies by two different consultants;

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- ☐ result in a destruction of protected open space in direct contravention of Teatown's mission.

Teatown opposes the Pipeline also because of its adverse impacts on the region, including:

- ☐ destruction of habitat within Haverstraw Bay;
- ☐ blasting in the Hudson River;
- ☐ clearing a 75 to 150 foot corridor to accommodate construction and operation;
- ☐ violation of the Clean Water Act;
- ☐ endangering the water supply for millions.

I, Betsy Weiner, Secretary of Teatown Lake Reservation, Inc., hereby certify that the above is a copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of Teatown Lake Reservation, Inc. on November 3, 2002.

UNITED COMMUNITIES OF WESTCHESTER

November 13, 2002, DOC Public Hearing

United Communities of Westchester developed in response to the threat of the current route of the Millennium Pipeline project through the Hudson River and Westchester County because it poses dire risks and disproportionate consequences not only to our County but also to New York City's energy and drinking water infrastructure.

Far from being opposed to natural gas, our efforts have centered on finding a long-term solution to the region's energy needs. We have engaged communities across Westchester County; officials at the County, State and Federal levels; and environmental leaders to find a solution that would provide a supply of energy that is adequate for the future while minimizing environmental and social impacts.

This long-term focus suggests that we cannot look at each project on a stand-alone basis and all issues must be thoroughly studied and considered. We cannot accept the mere mention of an issue as adequate consideration and study. We cannot accept solutions that are "expected to be developed" after the fact. While weighing his decision, the Secretary must not allow a substantial increase in risk to the Westchester Community to be authorized when there are viable alternatives that could minimize such risk.

If the Secretary were to override New York State's decision, we would watch yet another risk factor added to our communities and the visible route of this pipeline would be a permanent scar to remind us how representatives and agencies, that are in place to protect us, added this risk to our community against our will.

If these dire risks were properly studied and considered, it would be abundantly clear that the additional risks to our County and New York City's energy and drinking water infrastructure is unacceptable.

Coastal Management Policy 18 requires the safeguarding of "vital economic, social and environmental interests" of the state and its citizens. Clearly, the dire risks and disproportionate consequences exemplified in the following issues indicates that the Secretary must not override New York State's decision:

Hudson River

Construction and blasting will result in habitat destruction, release of hazardous chemicals, and detrimental effects on endangered species such as the Short Nosed Sturgeon.

Bryn Mawr Siphon

A rupture would deplete the drinking water resource of New York City by 40% and totally cut off 13 Westchester Communities.

New Croton Reservoir

Construction and clearing of woodlands will cause erosion and runoff that will further pollute the New Croton Reservoir system that serves 900,000 persons on an average daily basis.

Croton Wellfields

The pipeline would be constructed through the Croton-on-Hudson Wellfields, the sole source of drinking water to 7,100 persons in the Village. There is a risk of contamination of the water supply and it will limit the village from expanding its water supply to meet future growth.

Arboretum

The pipeline would result in severe and irreversible damage that would permanently impair nearly ¼ of the Arboretum's land, harm the sensitive wetlands, vegetation, and wildlife in the area, and destroy its scenic and recreational value.

Indian Point Evacuation Plan

An accident or attack at the Indian Point Nuclear Power plant during the pipeline's construction, or intentional sabotage thereafter, could cripple the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Plan and isolate thousands of coastal zone residents from their only escape during a nuclear emergency.

Blasting

Millennium plans to blast their way through 12 miles of solid bedrock along the ConEd/ Taconic Offset route, within feet of residences in the Coastal Zone, resulting in devastating impacts on homes and residents. This includes damage of foundations, septic systems and oil tanks; and the release of razor sharp flyrock that can kill people thousands of feet from the blast zone.

Dioxin

Con Edison admitted to spraying the ingredients of Agent Orange, a known lethal carcinogen back in the late 1970's, when it was legal, to clear the Con Ed right of way. Since dioxin levels have never been tested, it remains a dangerous threat to coastal zone residents where a combination of rock blasting, and construction traffic could spread this contaminant for hundreds of feet where it could be readily inhaled.

Con Ed Power Lines

Blasting and construction will occur within 10 feet of the ConEd power lines along 7.6 miles of the Right of Way in the Coastal Zone. These lines supply 40% of New York City and Westchester County's electricity. Whether a construction mishap or a terrorist act, the safety and reliability of this critical infrastructure will be at high risk.

Given the risks outlined above and how they impact the Coastal Zone and residents of the Coastal Zone, UCW urges the Department of Commerce not to override the decision made by New York State. The Department of Commerce must recognize that there are viable alternatives.

Any alternative considered must protect the "vital economic, social and environmental interests" of those living in the Coastal Zone. This call for:

- staying out of Haverstraw Bay
- complete avoidance of the NYC watershed, the Bryn Mawr Siphon, and the Croton Well Fields
- testing for Dioxin
- making sure that blasting will not harm structures or people before the fact not after
- avoid interfering with evacuation routes in the case of a nuclear accident

This can be done! Alternatives can be developed that consider the regions long term energy needs, meets the Coastal Zone issues listed above, and combines real community issues such as avoiding schools. If it must, the Millennium Pipeline could end at Bowline and participate in a constructive process to develop such an alternative if it is necessary. Considering that there are 10 other proposed natural gas projects to serve the downstate region, there is certainly no need to rush this destructive route through without serious long-term planning.

To paraphrase the DOS:

Gas pipelines in general are in the national interest, the Millennium Pipeline is not. In fact, the current route of the Millennium Pipeline is a detriment to the national interest.

WRITTEN COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE MILLENNIUM PIPELINE


TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

THE RELEVANT NEW YORK STATE AGENCIES HAVE EXAMINED AND STUDIED THIS ISSUE AND FOUND THAT THE MILLENNIUM PIPELINE SHOULD NOT BE APPROVED. THE PIPELINE WOULD POSE SIGNIFICANT RISK TO COMMUNITIES ALONG ITS ROUTE IN SOME CASE PUTTING SCHOOLS AND THE CHILDREN AND TEACHERS THEREIN AT RISK. IN THE CURRENT STATE OF TERROR ALERTS THIS DANGER IS REAL, NOT THEORETICAL. MOREOVER, THE PIPELINE WILL CAUSE SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE. THE STATE AND THE COMMUNITIES ALONG THE PIPELINE'S ROUTE ARE FIRMLY AGAINST IT.

IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT IT HAS BEEN SHOWN THERE IS NO NEED FOR THE PIPELINE. THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF ENERGY AND OTHER ENERGY SOURCES ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO WOULD BE CUSTOMERS OF THE PIPELINE. THIS IS PURELY A BUSINESS VENTURE, AND AT SUCH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS NO RIGHT TO OVER-RIDE THE DETERMINATION OF NEW YORK STATE

THE REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATIONS HAVE ALWAYS PROFESSED THE BELIEF THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD ALLOW THE STATES TO GOVERN THEMSELVES. THIS IS A CHANCE TO SEE IF THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION WILL HONOR ITS WORD OR, ONCE AGAIN, TRAMPLE THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE IN FAVOR OF BIG BUSINESS

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,


NOV. 13TH, 2002

HAL GESNER

184 SLEEPY HOLLOW RD

BRINLCUFF MANOR, NY 10510

Peter Wen and Lee Lee Wong
470 Sleepy Hollow Road
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510
Telephone: (914) 941-2493
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Email: leelwong@aol.com

November 13, 2002

Department of Commerce
Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1305 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Reference: Millennium Pipeline Appeal

Dear Sir/Madam,

We have been residents of Briarcliff Manor for eleven years. Among the various reasons we chose this town to establish residence is its location on the West Side of Westchester, with its unique natural environment, its cherished wildlife habitat and surrounding resources. Safety is the other crucial factor that prompts the majority of the families to move to the northern suburbs.

We are deeply concerned about the effects of the Millennium Pipeline in our community. We are concerned about the environmental destruction that will undoubtedly follow en route of a construction of such magnitude. We will be losing acres of forests and wetlands that are priceless and irreplaceable. We do not need to be scientists to know that unnatural changes can very well lead to major environmental disasters, palpable only years from now. As members of this community, we are concerned about the health issues associated with the drinking water supply that will arise as results of a construction of this nature. As parents of school-age children, we are concerned about the safety of our youngsters who will be the recipients of this "Millennium Pipeline legacy".

We are not experts in energy sources and alternatives. We are, however, very much aware that the safety of our children, our people's health and quality of life, and what nature so unselfishly give us can not be sacrificed and traded by "cost-effective" energy plans. While there is no effective preventive measures against natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and earthquakes, this is one man-made disaster we can prevent. We are not qualified to provide alternative solutions to the pipeline project, but we know it is not needed to supply the region with energy. We also know the importance of this project does not justify the long ill effects it will have on and the susceptibility it will create in the various communities it will touch upon.

Therefore it is with deference that we urge the Secretary of Commerce to take into consideration all the concerns listed herein plus countless more posed by other community members when making your final decision with respect to the Millennium Gas Pipeline.

Respectfully submitted,



**Charles and Susan Wanner
1325 Spring Valley Road
Ossining, New York 10562**

November 13, 2002

Mr. Donald Evans
Secretary of Commerce
U. S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

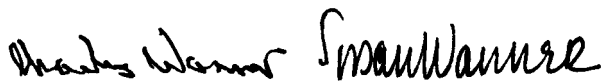
Dear Secretary Evans:

We urge you to uphold the New York Department of State's ruling of May 9, 2002, which found the Millennium Pipeline project to be inconsistent with New York's Coastal Zone Management Act, and therefore denied Millennium's plan to cross the Hudson River.

For 25 years we have been neighbors and members of Teatown Lake Reservation, a 759-acre land preservation and education center which is an extraordinary oasis in an overly developed area. It educates thousands of families and children every year, provides a home for countless species of wild life, and protects an extremely sensitive area, which supplies the drinking water for New York City. The proposed construction of the Millennium Pipeline through Teatown Lake Reservation would destroy this irrevocably.

Please, Secretary Evans, uphold New York's ruling. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Wanner Susan Wanner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charles Wanner and Susan Wanner

Written Testimony for Hearing November 13, 2002

I am submitting this testimony as a friend and neighbor of Teatown Lake Reservation, a 759-acre nature preserve and education center located in the Croton Watershed and in the path of the proposed Millennium Pipeline, to express my belief that you should not overturn a correct and properly made decision by New York State regarding the Millennium Gas Pipeline crossing of the Hudson River as proposed.

On May 9, 2002, the New York Department of State issued its determination:

The Department of State's decision found that the proposal was inconsistent with the provisions of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act and violated its policies in several ways by:

- *Adversely affecting the State-designated Haverstraw Bay Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat.*
- *Not adequately addressing concerns regarding the drinking water supply for New York City and some Westchester Communities.*
- *Being inconsistent with the Village of Croton-on-Hudson's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program.*

Teatown's preserve would be severely impacted by this pipeline route, as would the watershed in which it plays a major role. Teatown's wetlands, lake and streams are currently providing vital protection to the Croton Reservoir by filtering pollution through wetland plants and preventing flooding through the many systems available in the natural environment. Construction of the Millennium Pipeline through Teatown would destroy these natural systems so important for the protection of public drinking water, not to mention the impact it would have on Teatown's operation as a regional environment education center serving over 40,000 citizens each year.

I respectfully request a decision that upholds New York's right to protect its coastline, environment, and citizens.

Sincerely,



Marguerite O. Pitts
1031 Quaker Bridge Rd. East
Croton on Hudson, NY 10520



PIPELINE SCORECARD

APPROVED THE PIPELINE

OPPOSE THE PIPELINE

FERC

U.S. DEPT. OF INTERIOR
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NYS DEPT. OF STATE
NYS ATTORNEY GENERAL
NYC DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

NEW YORK ASKS THE U.S. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT, WHICH IS IT?



OR



THURSDAY IS "CALL YOUR SENATOR" DAY

PLEASE CALL TO SAY "STOP THE PIPELINE" - TELL A FRIEND, TOO!

SENATOR HILLARY CLINTON 212-688-6262

SENATOR CHUCK SCHUMER 212-486-4430

- (1) Millennium's gas is not needed - Iroquois, a competitor, asked FERC to reduce the capacity of its new pipeline because it didn't have enough customers.
- (2) There are alternatives to Millennium that are not as disruptive or dangerous - 9 have been approved and 11 are on the table. The Blue Atlantic Project can deliver gas from Nova Scotia through the Atlantic Ocean.
- (3) There are alternative routes to Millennium, using existing rights of way, and existing pipelines, as NYS Dept. of State suggested.

For further information, call Paul Wasserman at 914-946-1800 or email at wassyp@aol.com.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ingham Road, Briarcliff Manor, New York 10510
Telephone: 914/941-8880 Ext. 303 - Fax: 914/941-2177
Internet: www.briarcliffschools.org



November 5, 2002

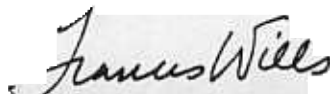
Dear Parents and Guardians:

On November 13th our community will have a final opportunity to demonstrate opposition to the installation of the Millennium Pipeline along the certified route that is adjacent to both of our school campuses. That opportunity will come at a public hearing held by the U.S. Department of Commerce as part of its review of the New York State Department of State ruling that the approved route is inconsistent with the State's Coastal Zone Management Act.

While the issue of the proximity of the pipeline to our schools is not directly relevant to the Department of Commerce proceeding, we believe that it is imperative for all governmental bodies that could affect the outcome of the pipeline battle to see continuing, strong opposition by the Briarcliff Community. The Briarcliff School Board will make a statement. Individuals will have the opportunity to speak on a first come, first served basis. Even if you are not inclined to speak at the hearing, your presence in large numbers is vital and will communicate a message to the DOC and all elected representatives. Therefore we urge you to attend the public hearing on November 13 at the Tarrytown Hilton. A flyer with details about the public hearing is attached.

We want as many people as possible to be in attendance at the hearing at 7:00 p.m. If you are not available at 7:00 p.m., please come during the day. It is important to make sure our Briarcliff presence is felt throughout the day. Please call 941-8880(x303) or send the form below to the District Office so that we can assure a good turnout.

Sincerely,


Dr. Frances G. Wills
Superintendent


Alicia R. Zaleski
Board President

ATTENDANCE AT MILLENNIUM PIPELINE PUBLIC HEARING November 13, 2002

I will attend at 7:00 p.m.

I cannot attend at 7:00 p.m., but I will attend between the hours of:

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. _____

Name: Jody Tompkins

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. _____

Phone: (914) 366-7469
(Please Print)

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. _____

E-Mail: [Signature]

Attended @ 6:00pm
I was unable to attend meeting *
I believe in the fact that the route is inconsistent with the State's Coastal MGMT. ACT.



WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

800 MICHAELIAN OFFICE BUILDING
148 MARTINE AVENUE
WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK 10601
(914) 995-2828
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GEORGE OROS
Minority Leader
Legislator, 1st District
5 Justin Court
Cortlandt Manor, New York 10567

Co-Chair
Committee on Rules
Member
Committee on Legislation
Committee on Budget & Appropriations
Committee on Community Affairs

November 13, 2002

TO: Secretary of Commerce

FROM: George Oros

On behalf of my constituents along the Hudson River, I am here today to register my strong opposition to any permit that would allow the gas pipeline to cross the Hudson River from Orange or Rockland Counties to Westchester. Over the past decade, many initiatives of the federal state, county, and even local governments have done much to revitalize the environment, aesthetic and recreational value of the Hudson River. Many speaking today will cite the lack of the need for this pipeline and others will cite the possible irrefutable harm to the Hudson River.

While I agree with both assessments, either one would clearly justify your rejection of this permit. Therefore, I am proud to join my County Legislative colleagues in opposition to this permit.

Sincerely,

George Oros

TOTAL P.02

THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

*Sponsored by: HON. THOMAS J. ABINANTI, HON. GEORGE OROS and
HON. RICHARD G. WISHNIE*

WHEREAS, the New York Department of State (DOS) thoroughly considered the proposal by Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation to construct the Millennium Pipeline, a new natural gas pipeline, to cross the Hudson River at Haverstraw Bay; and

WHEREAS, the DOS rejected the proposal concluding that such a route was not consistent with the policies of the New York State Coastal Management Program; and

WHEREAS, the proposal which would involve blasting and dredging the River would have injurious effects on the fish and wildlife habitat, in general, and on Haverstraw Bay, in particular; and

WHEREAS, the proposal could have injurious effects on the health and safety of local communities, in general, and, would conflict with the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program of the Village of Croton on Hudson, in particular; and

WHEREAS, the proposal does not adequately address concerns about possible contamination of the New York City drinking water supply and could potentially adversely affect 40% of the New York City Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) revoked the site access permit of the pipeline's sponsors to explore building through the Catskill Aqueduct on the basis of post September 11, 2001 security studies by the Army Corps of Engineers that determined that the proposed crossing posed inherent security risks; and

WHEREAS, viable alternatives that would reduce the health, safety and security risks inherent in the crossing plan and route through Westchester have not been explored or have been previously rejected; and

WHEREAS, the Westchester County Board of Legislators recognizes the New York State Department of State's objections in rejecting the proposed route for the Millennium Pipeline across the Hudson River.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Westchester County Board of Legislators urges the United States Department of Commerce to conduct a public hearing in Westchester County before making any decision on Columbia Gas' appeal of the Department of State decision; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Westchester County Board of Legislators urges the United States Department of Commerce to sustain

the decision of the New York State Department of State unless and until all reasonable concerns are addressed; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board directs its clerk to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation, the Secretary of the United States Department of Commerce, Westchester Federal and State elected officials and all other relevant parties, so that the content and intent of this resolution be widely known.

RESOLUTION 006 - 2002

WHEREAS, the concerns and safety of its residents is of the utmost importance to the Westchester County Board of Legislators, and

WHEREAS, the board recognizes that there are questions regarding the count of committed customers in Westchester County for the gas that would be distributed by the Millennium Gas Pipeline, and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Legislators recognizes substantial opposition to the Millennium Pipeline, and

WHEREAS, New York State is currently undertaking an energy needs analysis, so therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation consider immediately amending their application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for the Millennium Pipeline, and alter their route by proposing that the 420-mile Millennium Pipeline, currently intended to travel throughout Westchester County and terminate in the City of Mt. Vernon, be reconfigured to end at the Bowline Facility in Rockland County, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Public Service Commission should support such alteration of the Millennium plan, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a long term resolution to the region's energy needs using methods that are efficient, as well as community and environmentally sensitive, be sought with the participation of Westchester County as part of the New York State Energy Planning, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a study be conducted of the potential of utilizing the terminus at Bowline to provide additional natural gas into the Algonquin Pipeline to allow for the potential conversion of Indian Point from nuclear to natural gas, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Board directs its clerk to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation, the Entergy Corporation, the Governor of the State of New York and all State and Federal Officials, so that the content and intent of this resolution be widely known.

Passed by Board of Legislators – February 4, 2002



ROBERT F. MEEHAN
Supervisor

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Public Hearing November 13, 2002

I urge that objection of the New York State Department of State (hereafter DOS) to the consistency certification for the Millennium Pipeline project be upheld.

However, in upholding the objection of the DOS, I oppose the selection of any other Hudson River crossing which has been offered as an alternative without considerable further study and opportunity for public review and comment. I have previously objected to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding the last minute selection without adequate review and public comment of the portion of the route known as the Con Edison Offset/Taconic Alternative. This is the route which was selected after completion of the Draft and Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statements and has resulted in the pipeline being proposed to be built within 75 feet of a kindergarten playground at the Todd Elementary School and within 350 feet of the middle-high school in Briarcliff Manor. In selecting this route FERC reacted to objections raised to the originally proposed route but apparently in an attempt reach finality was totally dismissive of the legitimate and valid objections raised to the Con Edison Offset/Taconic Alternative.

Throughout the process FERC was responsive to the demands of Con Edison to an offset distance from its facilities. If the same type of offset were applied to guarantee the safety of the Briarcliff Manor school children then the Con Edison Offset/Taconic Alternative would have been and should have been eliminated from consideration.

The last minute roulette type selection process engaged in by FERC should not be repeated here.

I submit that there are but two reasonable alternatives and they are termination of the pipeline at Bowline Point or using excess capacity in the existing Algonquin pipeline to supply points east of the Hudson River.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Meehan
Supervisor, Town of Mount Pleasant